

Application No. 09/647,981
Amdt. dated May 13, 2005
Reply to Office Action of 11/17/04

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Petition is hereby made under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) for an extension of three months of the period for response to the Office Action. Authorization is enclosed to charge the prescribed fee to our deposit account.


The Examiner rejected claims 1 to 11 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In particular, the Examiner considered the term "a T-cell inducing HIV-derived molecule" to be indefinite.

The Examiner indicated that the applicants may obviate the rejection by directing the claim language toward HIV-1 polypeptides comprising T-cell epitopes. The Examiner's kind suggestion has been adopted and the subject matter of claim 6 has been incorporated into claim 1, with claim 6 being deleted. Consequentially, claims 7, 8 and 11 have been made dependent on claim 1.

In view of the revisions made to the claims, it is submitted that the claims can no longer be considered to be indefinite and hence the rejection of claims 1 to 11 insofar as they remain in the application in their amended form, under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, should be withdrawn.

It is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance and early and favourable consideration and allowance are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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